

ELECTION OF INVENTION:

The Patent Examiner has required the selection of one of the following two (2) groups of inventions for further prosecution:

Group I:

- Species I, Fig. 1-4, drawn to a container with a pin-and-socket rotary connection with claims 6 and 24 readable thereon;
- Species II, Fig. 5, drawn to a container with a bending member rotary connection with claim 7 readable thereon;
- Species III, Fig. 17, drawn to a container with an elastic rotary connection with claim 8 readable thereon.

The Examiner has deemed the following claims generic to this group: 1-5, 9-23 and 25-28.

Group II:

- Species I, Fig. 1-6 and 15, drawn to a container with a pin-and-guide shift connection with claims 9, 23 and 24 readable thereon;
- Species II, Fig. 16, drawn to a container with a double pivot shift connection with claim 10 readable thereon;
- Species III, Fig. 17, drawn to a container with an elastic connection with claim 11 readable thereon.

The Examiner has deemed the following claims generic to this group: 1-8, 12-22 and 25-28.

ELECTION:

Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, for further prosecution, Group II, Species I, FIGS. 1-6, drawn to a container with a pin-and-guide shift connection with claims 9, 23 and 24 readable thereon, and also amended claims 2-11, drawn to an anti-friction coating for further prosecution. Applicant also respectfully submits that new [method] claim 31 should likewise be considered along with the Group II.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 1-28, and 31. Claims 1-8, 1-22, and 25-28 have been withdrawn. Claims 9, and 23 have been amended. Claim 31 is new, and claim 24 is listed as previously presented.

As stated above, Applicant elected Group II, Species I, FIGS. 1-6, drawn to a container with a pin-and-guide shift connection with claims 9, 23 and 24 readable thereon, for further prosecution.

It is respectfully submitted that new claim 31 should be considered along with the elected Group II, Species I. Support for new claims 31 is found in the drawings, FIGS. 1-6 and in the specification at pages 5-10.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications for the non-elected species.

In summary, Group II, Species I has been elected. Claims 1-28 and 31 remain in the application, although claims 1-8, 10-22 and 25-28 have been withdrawn. No new matter has been added.

For all these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121 be withdrawn and that an action on the merits of all the claims be rendered.

Respectfully submitted,

/William Collard/

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 28, 2009.

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